

From: Paul Gardner
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:18pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it May Concern,

The proposed settlement is a bad idea. It would enable Microsoft to strengthen it's current monopoly and enable it to do even more damage to the public interest than it already has.

For the good of everyone 3rd parties must be able to produce new and replacement software components for monopolist Microsoft's systems. Toward this end Microsoft must be forbidden from impeding the development, distribution, sale, or use of non-Microsoft components in any way, and further must be required to COMPLETELY disclose ALL component interfaces. "Component" and "interface" should be broadly defined by the settlement, with specific instances left to the judgement of a disinterested watchdog, NOT Microsoft itself.

Sincerely,
Paul Gardner
Software Engineer